

PRCC ONLINE PUBLIC SPEAKING PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. What does 'body language' communicate in public speaking?**
 - A. Technical skills of the speaker
 - B. Emotions, confidence, and engagement levels of the speaker
 - C. Content of the speech
 - D. Length of the speech
- 2. What delivery method will you be using to present your speeches in this course?**
 - A. Manuscript
 - B. Memorized
 - C. Impromptu
 - D. Extemporaneous
- 3. What are 'counterarguments' in persuasive speaking?**
 - A. Arguments that support the speaker's position
 - B. Arguments presented against the speaker's position to strengthen their own argument
 - C. Arguments that are irrelevant to the topic
 - D. Arguments that aim to confuse the audience
- 4. What is the purpose of a 'call to action' in a persuasive speech?**
 - A. To provide entertainment to the audience
 - B. To discourage audience participation
 - C. To motivate the audience to take a specific action after the speech
 - D. To summarize the content of the speech
- 5. Which appeal is commonly associated with credibility or ethical appeal?**
 - A. Logos
 - B. Pathos
 - C. Ethos
 - D. Mythos

6. What role do anecdotes play in a speech?

- A. They distract from the main message
- B. They provide irrelevant information
- C. They illustrate points and make the speech relatable
- D. They are unnecessary in most speeches

7. What role does vocal variety play in a speech?

- A. It has no significant impact on audience engagement
- B. It only serves to fill time during the speech
- C. It can evoke emotion in the audience
- D. It is irrelevant to the speech delivery

8. Which of the following is NOT one of Cicero's Five "arts of public speaking"?

- A. Delivery
- B. Confidence
- C. Invention
- D. Arrangement

9. Emotional appeals in arguments are also known as what?

- A. Logos
- B. Pathos
- C. Ethos
- D. Mythos

10. Which of the following is an example of nonverbal communication?

- A. Using visual aids
- B. Speaker's dress and posture
- C. Pausing for effect during speech
- D. Reading from a script

Answers

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1. B
2. D
3. B
4. C
5. C
6. C
7. C
8. B
9. B
10. B

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Explanations

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1. What does 'body language' communicate in public speaking?

- A. Technical skills of the speaker
- B. Emotions, confidence, and engagement levels of the speaker**
- C. Content of the speech
- D. Length of the speech

In public speaking, body language plays a crucial role in conveying non-verbal messages that significantly enhance the overall communication process. When a speaker uses body language, it effectively communicates their emotions, confidence, and engagement levels to the audience. For instance, a speaker who stands tall with open posture and gestures naturally demonstrates confidence and command over the topic, which can positively influence how the audience perceives them. Additionally, facial expressions and movements can reveal genuine emotions, helping to create a connection with the audience. Engaging movements and eye contact can indicate a speaker's enthusiasm and investment in their message, making the audience feel involved and connected to the speech. In contrast, while technical skills may contribute to a speaker's ability to deliver a speech, and content is essential for conveying the message, neither of these aspects is communicated through body language in the same way. The length of the speech also does not relate to body language. Thus, the role of body language in public speaking is fundamentally about expressing the speaker's emotions and level of engagement, aligning perfectly with the understanding that it communicates confidence and emotional sincerity.

2. What delivery method will you be using to present your speeches in this course?

- A. Manuscript
- B. Memorized
- C. Impromptu
- D. Extemporaneous**

Choosing the extemporaneous delivery method is particularly effective for presenting speeches in a course setting for several reasons. With extemporaneous delivery, speakers prepare their material in advance and practice it, but they do not memorize the speech verbatim nor read from a script. Instead, they work from notes or an outline that allows for flexibility in language and the ability to adapt to audience reactions. This method achieves a balance between preparation and spontaneity, allowing the speaker to engage with the audience more authentically. As a result, the presentation tends to feel more natural and dynamic, which enhances the speaker's ability to connect with listeners. Extemporaneous speaking can also improve the speaker's confidence, enabling them to convey their message effectively while maintaining eye contact and interacting with the audience. In the context of a public speaking course, developing skills in extemporaneous delivery can be crucial, as it encourages critical thinking, quick adaptability, and the ability to articulate ideas clearly and concisely without over-reliance on memorization or a script.

3. What are 'counterarguments' in persuasive speaking?

- A. Arguments that support the speaker's position
- B. Arguments presented against the speaker's position to strengthen their own argument**
- C. Arguments that are irrelevant to the topic
- D. Arguments that aim to confuse the audience

Counterarguments in persuasive speaking refer to the arguments that are presented against the speaker's position, and their purpose is to strengthen the speaker's own argument. By acknowledging and addressing counterarguments, the speaker demonstrates that they have considered opposing viewpoints, which can enhance their credibility and appeal to the audience's sense of logic. This approach allows the speaker to effectively counter opposition through refutation or concession, reinforcing their original stance and persuading the audience more effectively. Incorporating counterarguments shows a deep understanding of the topic and engages the audience by recognizing alternative perspectives, thereby making the speaker's position more robust and convincing. This method aligns with effective persuasive strategies, where addressing potential objections is crucial to creating a compelling argument.

4. What is the purpose of a 'call to action' in a persuasive speech?

- A. To provide entertainment to the audience
- B. To discourage audience participation
- C. To motivate the audience to take a specific action after the speech**
- D. To summarize the content of the speech

In a persuasive speech, the purpose of a 'call to action' is to motivate the audience to take a specific action after the speech. This element is crucial because it transforms the speech from a mere presentation of ideas into a powerful tool for change. A well-crafted call to action makes clear what the speaker wants the audience to do, whether it's to adopt a new belief, support a cause, or change a behavior. By engaging the audience with a strong, actionable directive, the speaker aims to inspire listeners to not only reflect on the content presented but also to respond in a tangible way. This direct appeal encourages engagement and may lead to real-world implications, reinforcing the effectiveness of the persuasive message. Thus, the call to action serves as the culmination of the speech, showing the audience how they can apply the information discussed to their lives and contribute to the speaker's objectives.

5. Which appeal is commonly associated with credibility or ethical appeal?

- A. Logos
- B. Pathos
- C. Ethos**
- D. Mythos

The appeal commonly associated with credibility or ethical appeal is ethos. Ethos refers to the credibility, trustworthiness, and moral character of the speaker. When a speaker establishes ethos, they aim to convince the audience that they are knowledgeable, reliable, and have good intentions. This is essential in persuasive speaking, as audiences are more likely to be influenced by speakers whom they perceive as credible and ethical. Building ethos can involve sharing qualifications, experience, and demonstrating a strong understanding of the subject matter. By doing so, speakers foster trust and respect, which can greatly enhance the effectiveness of their message. This appeal is foundational in establishing a connection with the audience and influencing their opinions or beliefs based on the speaker's perceived integrity and expertise.

6. What role do anecdotes play in a speech?

- A. They distract from the main message
- B. They provide irrelevant information
- C. They illustrate points and make the speech relatable**
- D. They are unnecessary in most speeches

Anecdotes play a vital role in speech-making because they effectively illustrate points and make the speech more relatable to the audience. By sharing personal stories or experiences, the speaker creates an emotional connection with listeners, helping them to engage with the content on a deeper level. Anecdotes can simplify complex ideas or reinforce key messages through vivid examples, making the overall message more memorable. This storytelling approach can captivate the audience's attention and foster empathy, allowing them to see the relevance of the topic in their own lives. Additionally, when a speaker uses relatable anecdotes, it can enhance credibility and relatability, as audiences are more likely to trust and connect with someone who shares their experiences or emotions.

7. What role does vocal variety play in a speech?

- A. It has no significant impact on audience engagement
- B. It only serves to fill time during the speech
- C. It can evoke emotion in the audience**
- D. It is irrelevant to the speech delivery

Vocal variety significantly enhances a speech by adding emotional depth and interest, which is essential in engaging the audience. By varying elements such as pitch, volume, speed, and tone, a speaker can emphasize key points and convey feelings effectively. This variation can help the audience connect with the message on a personal level, making the content more relatable and memorable. For instance, raising one's voice may convey excitement or urgency, while speaking softly can evoke intimacy or seriousness. The ability to evoke emotion through vocal changes is crucial for inspiring action or reflection in listeners, thus underscoring the importance of vocal variety in effective speech delivery.

8. Which of the following is NOT one of Cicero's Five "arts of public speaking"?

- A. Delivery
- B. Confidence**
- C. Invention
- D. Arrangement

The correct choice indicates that confidence is not one of Cicero's Five "arts of public speaking." Cicero, the notable Roman orator, identified five key components essential to effective public speaking, which include invention, arrangement, style, memory, and delivery. Invention refers to the process of developing arguments and finding the right ideas or content for a speech. Arrangement involves organizing the speech in a coherent structure, while style pertains to the choice of language and rhetorical devices used in the speech. Memory focuses on the techniques for memorizing the speech or material being presented. Delivery encompasses the physical presentation of the speech, including voice modulation, gestures, and eye contact. Confidence, while crucial to a successful delivery and overall effectiveness in public speaking, is more a characteristic or personal quality rather than a formal step or art as categorized by Cicero. Thus, it is not included in his classical framework of public speaking skills. Understanding these distinctions can enhance one's ability to prepare and execute effective speeches, recognizing that confidence, although vital, stems from mastering the other arts.

9. Emotional appeals in arguments are also known as what?

- A. Logos
- B. Pathos**
- C. Ethos
- D. Mythos

Emotional appeals in arguments are referred to as pathos. This term comes from classical rhetoric and signifies the appeal to the audience's emotions and feelings. When a speaker evokes emotions such as fear, joy, anger, or empathy, they are using pathos to persuade their audience. By connecting on an emotional level, a speaker can enhance the impact of their message and influence the audience's attitudes or beliefs regarding the topic being discussed. Pathos is essential in public speaking because it can create a bond between the speaker and the audience, making the argument more memorable and engaging. By tapping into the audience's emotions, speakers can motivate them to take action, change their opinions, or simply connect more deeply with the message being presented. The other terms represent different forms of persuasion. Logos refers to logical appeals, where arguments are based on reason and evidence. Ethos involves credibility and ethical appeals, focusing on the speaker's character and trustworthiness. Mythos is related to cultural narratives or storytelling elements. Understanding these distinctions is crucial for effective communication and argumentation.

10. Which of the following is an example of nonverbal communication?

- A. Using visual aids
- B. Speaker's dress and posture**
- C. Pausing for effect during speech
- D. Reading from a script

Nonverbal communication encompasses all the ways in which individuals convey messages without the use of words. This includes body language, facial expressions, gestures, posture, and even the physical appearance of the speaker. The speaker's dress and posture are significant elements of nonverbal communication, as they can influence the audience's perception of the speaker's credibility, confidence, and professionalism. How a speaker stands or moves can convey openness, confidence, or nervousness, while their attire can signal respect for the audience and the occasion. Visual aids, while aids to communication, rely on verbal explanation to convey messages and therefore do not fall under nonverbal communication. Pausing for effect can enhance oral delivery but is primarily a verbal technique related to rhythm and pacing rather than a nonverbal cue. Reading from a script involves verbal communication, as it explicitly uses spoken language to convey messages rather than indirect expressions or body language. Thus, the emphasis on the speaker's dress and posture highlights essential aspects of how nonverbal cues function in public speaking.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://prccolpublicspeaking.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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